

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1. (currently amended) An apparatus for burning solid fuel, the apparatus comprising:

a combustion chamber enclosure defining a combustion chamber for combustion of a fuel and including an air passage opening; and

an automatic air intake control coupled to the fireplace to regulate air intake into the combustion chamber through the air passage opening for combustion of the fuel, the automatic air intake control comprising:

a cover movable between open and closed positions relative to the air passage opening; and

an actuating assembly including an actuating member and a follower member, the actuating member including a follower surface formed therein, and the follower member including a first end coupled to the cover and a second end that engages the follower surface; and

a timer coupled to the cover and actuating member, the timer configured to actuate the actuator member to control the position of the cover to regulate air intake into the combustion chamber.

2-3. (canceled)

4. (currently amended) The apparatus of claim [[3]] 1, wherein the an engagement position of the follower member on the follower surface corresponds to positions of the cover between the open and closed positions.

5. (currently amended) The apparatus of claim [[3]] 1, wherein the follower surface includes a first portion defining a first open position for the cover, a second portion defining a second open position, and a third portion defining a closed position, and the controlling step includes moving the follower member between the first, second and third portions of the follower surface.

6. (currently amended) The apparatus of claim [[2]] 1, wherein the cover rotates about a shaft and the actuating member rotates about a shaft that is coaxial parallel with the cover shaft, and the timer controls rotation of the actuating member.

7. (currently amended) The apparatus of claim [[2]] 1, wherein the timer includes a rotatable shaft coupled to the actuating member, and rotation of the shaft is controlled in a timed manner.

8. (original) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the apparatus is a wood-burning stove and the solid fuel is a fibrous product.

9. (original) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the automatic air intake control further includes a manual adjustment arm coupled to the timer and configured to manually set the timer for a predetermined air intake control period.

10. (original) The apparatus of claim 9, wherein combustion chamber enclosure further includes a main air passage, and the manual adjustment arm includes a first member coupled to the actuating assembly and a second member controlling air intake through the main air passage.

11. (original) The apparatus of claim 1, further comprising a secondary combustion system that includes a side riser and a manifold that direct combustion air to a top portion of the combustion chamber for secondary combustion of the solid fuel.

12. (original) The apparatus of claim 11, further including a baffle positioned in the top portion of the combustion chamber, and the manifold directs combustion air adjacent to the baffle.

13. (original) The apparatus of claim 12, wherein the baffle comprises a refractory material with high heat reflective properties.

14. (original) The apparatus of claim 1, further comprising a front panel and an air wash system, the air wash system including an air channel that directs air across a surface of the front panel within the combustion chamber.

15. (original) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the automatic air intake control is positioned at a bottom side of the combustion chamber enclosure.

16. (original) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the cover provides a substantially air-tight seal with the air passage.

17. (currently amended) A method for automatic control of air intake for combustion within an apparatus that burns solid fuel, the apparatus including a combustion chamber enclosure that defines a combustion chamber for combustion of fuel, an air passage opening formed in the combustion chamber enclosure, and an automatic air intake control that includes a cover, and a timer, an actuating member having a follower surface, and a follower member, the method comprising the steps of:

coupling the actuating member to the timer;

coupling the follower member to the cover and engaging the follower member with the follower surface;

adjusting the cover between an open and closed position to control flow of combustion air through the air passage opening into the combustion chamber for combustion of the solid fuel; and

controlling a position of the cover over a predetermined time period with the timer, wherein controlling includes moving the actuating member with the timer thereby moving the follower member along the follower surface to adjust the position of the cover.

18-19. (canceled)

20. (currently amended) The method of claim 19 17, wherein the follower surface includes a first portion defining a first open position for the cover, a second portion defining a second open position, and a third portion defining a closed position, and the controlling step includes moving the follower member between the first and second open positions and the closed position for the cover.

21. (original) The method of claim 17, wherein the adjusting step includes setting the cover in the open position and the controlling step includes moving the cover from the opened position to the closed position.

22. (currently amended) An automatic air intake control for regulating air intake into an apparatus configured to burn solid fuel, the automatic air intake control comprising: a cover movable between open and closed positions relative to the air passage opening; and

an actuating assembly that includes an actuating member and a follower member, the actuator member having a follower surface, and the follower member being secured to the cover and engaging the actuating member along the follower surface;

a timer coupled to the cover actuating member and configured to control to actuate the actuating member to move the follower along the follower surface thereby controlling the position of the cover to regulate air intake into the apparatus.

23-24. (canceled)

25. (currently amended) The air intake control of claim 24 22, wherein the follower surface includes a plurality of steps, each step corresponding to a different position of the cover between the open and closed positions.

26. (currently amended) The air intake control of claim 24 22, wherein the timer includes a rotatable shaft that is coupled to the adjustable member, and rotation of the rotatable shaft moves the adjustable member thereby moving the follower member such that the cover is moved between the open and closed positions.

27. (original) The air intake control of claim 22, further comprising a timer setting member coupled to the timer to set the timer for a predetermined air intake control period.

28. (currently amended) The air intake control of claim 24 22, wherein the follower surface is defined within a shaped slot that is formed in the actuator member.

29. (new) An apparatus for burning solid fuel, the apparatus comprising:  
a combustion chamber enclosure defining a combustion chamber for combustion of a fuel and including an air passage opening and a main air passage; and

an automatic air intake control coupled to the fireplace to regulate air intake into the combustion chamber through the air passage opening for combustion of the fuel, the automatic air intake control comprising:

a cover movable between open and closed positions relative to the air passage opening; and

a timer coupled to the cover and configured to control the position of the cover to regulate air intake into the combustion chamber;

wherinc the automatic air intake control further includes a manual adjustment arm coupled to the timer and configured to manually set the timer for a predetermined air intake control period, and the manual adjustment arm includes a first

member coupled to the actuating assembly and a second member controlling air intake through the main air passage.

30. (new) The air intake control of claim 29, wherein the second member of the manual adjustment arm includes a sliding cover configured to slide relative to the main air opening to control air flow through the main air opening.

31. (new) The air intake control of claim 30, wherein actuating the manual adjustment arm to manually set the timer concurrently moves the sliding cover into a positioned closing the main air opening.

32. (new) An apparatus for burning solid fuel, the apparatus comprising:  
a combustion chamber enclosure defining a combustion chamber for combustion of a fuel and including an air passage opening;

a secondary combustion system that includes a side riser and a manifold that direct combustion air to a top portion of the combustion chamber for secondary combustion of the solid fuel; and

an automatic air intake control coupled to the fireplace to regulate air intake into the combustion chamber through the air passage opening for combustion of the fuel, the automatic air intake control comprising:

a cover movable between open and closed positions relative to the air passage opening; and

a timer coupled to the cover and configured to control the position of the cover to regulate air intake into the combustion chamber.

33. (new) An apparatus for burning solid fuel, the apparatus comprising:  
a combustion chamber enclosure defining a combustion chamber for combustion of a fuel and including an air passage opening;

a baffle positioned in the top portion of the combustion chamber, and the manifold directs combustion air adjacent to the baffle; and

an automatic air intake control coupled to the fireplace to regulate air intake into the combustion chamber through the air passage opening for combustion of the fuel, the automatic air intake control comprising:

a cover movable between open and closed positions relative to the air passage opening; and

a timer coupled to the cover and configured to control the position of the cover to regulate air intake into the combustion chamber.

34. (new) The apparatus of claim 33, wherein the baffle comprises a refractory material with high heat reflective properties.

35. (new) An apparatus for burning solid fuel, the apparatus comprising: a combustion chamber enclosure defining a combustion chamber for combustion of a fuel and including an air passage opening;

a front panel and an air wash system, the air wash system including an air channel that directs air across a surface of the front panel within the combustion chamber; and

an automatic air intake control coupled to the fireplace to regulate air intake into the combustion chamber through the air passage opening for combustion of the fuel, the automatic air intake control comprising:

a cover movable between open and closed positions relative to the air passage opening; and

a timer coupled to the cover and configured to control the position of the cover to regulate air intake into the combustion chamber.

36. (new) An automatic air intake control for regulating air intake into an apparatus configured to burn solid fuel, the automatic air intake control comprising:

a cover movable between open and closed positions;

a timer coupled to the cover and configured to control the position of the cover to regulate air intake into the apparatus;

an actuating assembly that includes an actuating member and a follower member, the actuator member being secured to the timer and having a follower surface, and the follower member being secured to the cover and engaging the actuating member along the follower surface;

wherein the follower surface includes a plurality of steps, each step corresponding to a different position of the cover between the open and closed positions.